

REVIEW

- INTRODUCTION: *THE INVISIBLE HAND OF GOD!*** (see 9:20-32; Ps.30:11; i.e., destruction & exile)
A. *THE POWERFUL HAND OF MAN!* (chp.1; Ahasuerus and the Persian empire rules absolutely)
B. *THE SILENCE OF THE LAMB!* (chp.2; Esther taken into captivity)
C. *UTTER HOPELESSNESS!* (chp.3; Haman plans genocide for Jews)

I. THE TESTIMONY & LAW OF GOD! (see Ps.19:7; Is.8:20; 1Jn.5:10)

- A. GRIEF** (1-4)
B. EXPLANATION (5-8a)
C. COMMAND (8b,9)
D. CONFLICT (10-12)
E. ADMONITION (13,14)
F. RESOLUTION (16b)
G. FASTING (16,17; see 3)

II. CONCLUSIONS FOR WHAT YOU MUST BELIEVE! (i.e., *testimony*)

- A. *YOUR KING SUMMONS & WELCOMES!*** (11 /Mt.11:28; Hb.4:14f; 10:19f; Gal.2:20; Eph.5:2; Mk.10:14f)
B. *YOU WILL HANG TOGETHER OR ALONE!* (8; 13,14; see 2:10,20; Mt.10:37-39; see Num.14:30(Hb3:19f); 2Kngs.7:1,2f; 19; see Eph.4:16; Prov.11:25; Mt.22:39)
C. *EVERYBODY NEEDS SOMEBODY SOMETIME!* (16,17,etc.; Jdgs.4:9; see Gen.2:20f; Ex.17:9f; 1Kngs.19:19f; Lk.10:1; Acts 16:16,etc.; see 1Tm.3:1f,8f,11)
D. *GOD HAS GIVEN YOU A DELIVERER!* (14; Lk.1:70; Col.1:13,14; 2;12; see Heb 2:14; 1Jn.3:8; Mt.4:1f; Heb.4:15; 1Pt.2:24; 1Cor.15:55f)
E. *THE BIBLE INTERPRETS ITSELF* (3; Ps.19,119; Ezr.7:10 /Joel 2:12f/1:1-2:11; Rom15:4; Ps42,43 /WCF,1,7,9)

III. CONCLUSIONS FOR WHAT YOU MUST DO! (i.e., *law*)

- A. *STUDY THE BIBLE DEEPLY!*** (3; Ps.19,119; Ezr.7:10; see Joel 2:12f/1:1-2:11; Rom.15:4; Ps.42,43; see 1Tm.4:12-16; 1Th.5:12; see WCF, I, 7,9)
B. *GRIEVE HONESTLY!* (1-4; Jn.11:21,32; 1Th.4:13)
C. *WEEP WITH THOSE WHO WEEP!* (4; see Jer.9:1f; Mt.9:36; Rom.12:15; Prov.25:20)
D. *DON'T SHUT OUT THE SORROWS OF THE WORLD FROM YOUR COMPASSION!* (2; see Amos 6:1f; Ezk.16:49; Mt.20:30f)
E. *TAKE RESPONSIBILITY FOR THE CONSEQUENCES OF YOUR ACTIONS!* (7,8; see 3:2,5f; see Is.19:22; Jer.1:10; 15:10-21)
F. *FACE HARD TRUTHS HONESTLY!* (11 /Mk8:31,35; Acts14:12; 2Tm3:12 /1Co5:1f; Lk15:18f; 2S12:7f,13)
G. *STEWARD YOUR GIFTS FAITHFULLY!* (14b; see Mt.25:15f,28; Eph.4:12-16; 1Pt.4:10,11)
H. *GIVE UP ON THE EFFECTIVENESS OF YOUR OWN RESOURCES!* (16,3; see Neh.1:4; Ps.35:13; Dan.9:3; Lk.2:37; Acts 13:3; 14:23)
I. *TRUST GOD BY DOING WHAT HE HAS CALLED YOU TO DO!* (16b; 5:1f; Prov.21:1; Jos.1:6,7,9; Jer.1:8,17,19; see Joel 2:12f; Dt.30:1-3; Mt.28:18f)
J. *EXPECT GOOD THINGS FROM GOD!* (3,16; Joel 2:12f; Ps.42:5,11; 43:5; 30:5,11; i.e., *hope*)